

NCC 'FUTURE GENERATION 2024' PAPER Abstracts
SCIENTIFIC SESSION IN COOPERATION WITH THE BCLA

NCC 'Future generation 2024'

Organization Section: NCC/ BCLA

PAPER Abstracts

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clear, consistent and implementable guidelines for instructions and protocols from the professional bodies in the Netherlands and Belgium.

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NCC Doing Research: Contradictions in no-water exposure during contact lens instructions

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Purpose: It is unclear if patient contact lens (CL) non-compliance is related to the consistent delivery of the instruction by the eye care practitioner (ECP). We explored current clinical practice in the Netherlands and Belgium related to risk awareness of water and contact lens use during contact lens instruction.

Method: During the NCC conference (26 and 27 June 2022), Dutch-speaking ECPs completed an electronic survey about CL instruction protocols including hygiene in their workplace. The survey consisted of 32 mandatory multiple-choice questions, and participants were not able to return to an earlier question.

Results: Of the 260 participants who completed the survey, 135 (51.9%) were optometrist, 100 (38.5%) were dispensing optician, CL specialist, or orthoptist, and 25 (9.6%) were student. CL instructions were provided by the optometrist or CL specialist (n=161; 62%), while 99 (38%) reported this was completed by a colleague (dispensing optician, support staff, student).

Conclusions: There is an alarming lack of clear and consistent no water messaging by ECPs during CL instructions, which unnecessarily puts CL patients at risk of an inflammatory and/ or infection response. This study also emphasized the need for